

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW SALVIA FROM GUATEMALA.

BY S. F. BLAKE.

Specimens of a *Salvia*, collected in Guatemala by Mr. Wilson Popenoe of the Bureau of Plant Industry and recently referred to the writer for determination, prove to represent a new species which promises to be of value for horticultural purposes, from its abundance of azure-blue flowers. Mr. Popenoe believes that it will prove hardy in southern California and southern Florida, and that it will be possible to grow it elsewhere in the United States as a bedding plant, as it is readily propagated by means of cuttings. At the suggestion of the collector the species is named for Mr. Robert W. Hempstead of Tucurú, Alta Verapaz, Guatemala, who materially aided Mr. Popenoe in his explorations in Guatemala.

Salvia hempsteadiana, sp. nov.

Stems several, erect, "45 to 60 cm. high, half-woody at base," 4-sulcate with rounded angles, puberulous in the grooves, sparsely hispidulous and sessile-glandular on the angles; leaf blades 3.5 to 7 cm. long, 2.5 to 5.5 cm. wide, triangular, narrowed from just above base to apex, truncate at base, hastately 1 to 2-dentate on each side near base, crenate to subentire above, papyraceous, deep green above, puberulous along costa and chief veins, on surface sparsely gland-dotted and finely hispidulous, beneath usually purplish, gland-dotted, sparsely hispidulous along costa; petioles purplish, puberulous above, slender, 2 to 5 cm. long, their bases connected by a puberulous ring; uppermost pair of leaves reduced, lance-ovate; peduncle (6 to 8 cm. long) and inflorescence densely pilose with gland-tipped hairs and stipitate-glandular; branches of inflorescence several, ascending, the lowest 5 to 10 cm. long, the flowers loosely racemose; pedicels 1.5 to 3.5 mm. long; calyx 3 to 3.5 mm. long, stipitate-glandular and sparsely pilose with gland-tipped hairs, ciliate with chiefly eglandular hairs, green or violet-tinged, the upper lip tridenticulate, the teeth of the subequal lower lip lanceolate, acute, 0.5 mm. long; corolla 2.2 cm. long, "sky-blue," violet-blue when dried,

obliquely tubular-funnelform, stipitate-glandular and pilose with chiefly eglandular hairs, the lips equal, the lower more or less deflexed, the middle lobe of lower lip exceeding the lateral; stamens and style exerted about 1 cm., pale; filaments puberulous at base; anthers apparently violet, 3.5 mm. long.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium, no. 1,011,724, collected at the Seed and Plant Introduction farm at Yarrow, Maryland, May 23, 1919, by P. Bisset (S. P. I. no. 44995), grown from cuttings collected in clayey soil along a mountain stream near Purulá, Baja Verapaz, Guatemala, altitude about 1525 meters, July 19, 1917, by Wilson Popenoe (no. 176).

This species is related to *S. brevicalyx* Benth., of the series *Vulgares*, but is easily distinguished by its loose inflorescences, longer pedicels, and different leaves. From *S. filipes* Benth. it differs widely in leaf shape.